



United States
Department of
Agriculture

National Institute
of Food
and Agriculture

[www.nifa.usda.gov/
familyconsumersciences.cfm](http://www.nifa.usda.gov/familyconsumersciences.cfm)
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FACTSHEET

DIVISION OF FAMILY & CONSUMER SCIENCES

BACKGROUND

THE DIVISION OF FAMILY & CONSUMER SCIENCES (DFCS) strengthens families, farms, communities, and the economy through research, education, and Cooperative Extension. Our programs help Americans understand the connections between food, health, agriculture, people, and communities. We work through federal, state, and local partnerships to tackle pressing human and societal challenges, such as food insecurity and hunger; obesity, nutrition, and health; economic disparity in agricultural and rural communities; threats to quality of living; and the human impact of NIFA priorities. Our efforts help people understand how they can improve their well-being and quality of living while functioning in family, farm, community, regional, national, and global contexts.

OUR PORTFOLIO FOCUSES ON THE FOLLOWING GOALS:

- 1 Advancing rural communities, farms, and economies
- 2 Increasing financial capability and consumer decisionmaking
- 3 Enhancing nutrition, health, and wellness
- 4 Enhancing quality of home and community living
- 5 Supporting healthy child and family development

PRIORITY PROGRAM AREAS

RURAL VITALITY

Rural and community programs contribute to farm sustainability, regional rural development, community resource and economic development, and Extension risk management education. These programs increase rural vitality, and enhance prosperity for rural communities, farms, ranches, and businesses.

FINANCIAL CAPABILITY

Family and consumer economics programs promote financial knowledge and understanding, skills and competence, and responsibility, which results in less economic strain on households, more financial resiliency, less risk of poverty spanning generations, and better overall individual and family financial outcomes.

NUTRITION AND HEALTH LITERACY

Nutrition, health, and wellness programs focus on promoting health, preventing disease and disability, eliminating disparities, and improving quality of living through agricultural health and safety, access to health care and preventive services, and health in relation to the environment.

HOME SAFETY, ENERGY EFFICIENCY, WATER QUALITY, AND DISASTER EDUCATION

Housing and community living programs identify issues, develop solutions, and share promising practices to promote sustainable housing initiatives, safe and affordable housing, air and water quality, and home energy efficiency. Our programs support nationwide disaster education.

CHILD AND FAMILY RESILIENCY

We support child and family resiliency across the lifespan through targeted programs—including military family and veteran programs—to help people make informed, science-based decisions about their family's health and well-being.

LEADERSHIP

Caroline E. Crocoll, *Director*

EMPLOYEES

16

ANNUAL REPORT EXPENDITURES (ALL SOURCES)

Total FY12.....\$383,589,875
Research116,672,390
Extension266,917,485

PARTNER LAND-GRANT INSTITUTIONS

Total112
1862 Land-Grant Universities57
1890 Land-Grant Universities19
1994 Land-Grant Universities36